

Allison Brashear, M.B.A, M.D.



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University of California, Davis

Dean, UC Davis School of Medicine

An executive officer from a UC

Appointed by UC Chancellor

Dr. Allison Brashear began as Dean of the UC Davis School of Medicine July 2019. She oversees one of the nation's top research, academic and medical training institutions, with 761 full-time faculty and approximately 450 students.

As an internationally known researcher in movement disorders, Dr. Brashear added her expertise to a school that is a national leader in research – ranked 18th nationally for her field of neurosciences – as well as a one of America's top medical schools in academics and training.

Before joining UC Davis, Dr. Brashear was professor and chair of the Department of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine, leading a team whose research and clinical innovation led to new models of neurological care. At Wake Forest she was also an active clinician and held the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology.

She also holds an M.B.A. focused on health-sector management and has expertise in health policy, hospital-clinical integration, academics and research. Dr. Brashear has been a career-long champion of inclusion and patient-centered care, and has worked actively to help advance women in leadership across academic medicine.

Brashear and her husband, Clifford Ong, have two children and two rescue dogs.

Alternate Member

James Kovach, J.D., M.D.

Chief Innovation Officer

University of California, Davis

Dr. James Kovach serves as Director, Entrepreneurism and Innovation at the University of California Davis Health, where he supports

physician training in entrepreneurship; and industry outreach to support translational science.

Dr. Kovach received his medical degree with distinction from the University of Kentucky while simultaneously playing in the National Football League. Following his NFL career, he attended law school at Stanford University and practiced corporate law in Palo Alto California.

Previously, he has directed the Technology Transfer Program at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, served as Chief Operating Officer of Athersys, Inc. (NASDAQ: ATHX), a leading public biotechnology company developing stem cell therapeutics, and served as President of the Buck Institute for Age Research, an independent research institute dedicated exclusively to research on aging and age-associated disease.

Dr. Kovach played 7 years in the National Football League as a middle linebacker for the New Orleans Saints and San Francisco 49ers. He is a member of the Southeastern Conference Legends Athletic Hall of Fame; and a member of the COSIDA Academic All-American Hall of Fame.

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